

INDIANAPOLIS NORTH FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 3B-3 (WESTFIELD BLVD ALIGNMENT)



CONTEXT

Phase 3B-3 (Westfield Blvd. Alignment) is the southernmost portion of the Indianapolis North Flood Damage Reduction Project, also known as the Indy North Levee. When all phases are complete, more than 1,200 homes in the Warleigh, Broad Ripple and Butler-Tarkington neighborhoods—as well as much of the Butler University campus—will be protected against damage in the case of a 300-year flood event. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is constructing this project in coordination with the City of Indianapolis Department of Public Works. The USACE requires all phases of the Indy North Levee project be built and maintained to qualify the project for FEMA accreditation, a process which would redraw the floodplain and reduce flood insurance rates for many Indy residents.



53RD STREET BRIDGE OVER INDIANAPOLIS CENTRAL CANAL

PROJECT DETAILS

ANTICIPATED ACTIVITY START:
FEBRUARY 2017

PROJECT MAP:



 **Phase 3B-3 (Westfield Blvd Alignment)**
 **Phase 3B-2 (Riviera Club Earthen Levee)**



ALIGNMENT

After delaying for several years to study alternative options, the City of Indianapolis officially agreed to USACE's Westfield Blvd. alignment for Phase 3B-3 in December of 2015. This alignment connects to Phase 3B-2 (Riviera Club Earthen Levee) near Capital Avenue at the Indianapolis Central Canal; it then extends south along the east side of the Canal, tying to high ground on the Butler University campus. Per USACE, this is the only alignment option to offer complete flood damage protection and accreditation by FEMA.

DESIGN

Phase 3B-3 is designed to minimize or mitigate any effect it might have on its surroundings. Pedestrian connectivity will be maintained along the levee with a new multi-use path and a series of pedestrian openings along the length of the flood wall. The visual impact of the northernmost portion of the flood wall will be minimized through reducing its height, either by the use of temporary panels, or by a passive flood wall system. The flood wall will also display a pattern and color scheme appropriate to the surrounding natural environment, so as to limit its visual impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION

Construction of Phase 3B-3 will avoid or minimize the destruction of mature trees along the project alignment, and grasses and other appropriate vegetation will be planted on both sides of the flood wall following its construction. All phases of the Indy North Levee have required environmental mitigation. To date, 65 acres of new trees have been planted in strategic locations around Indianapolis.